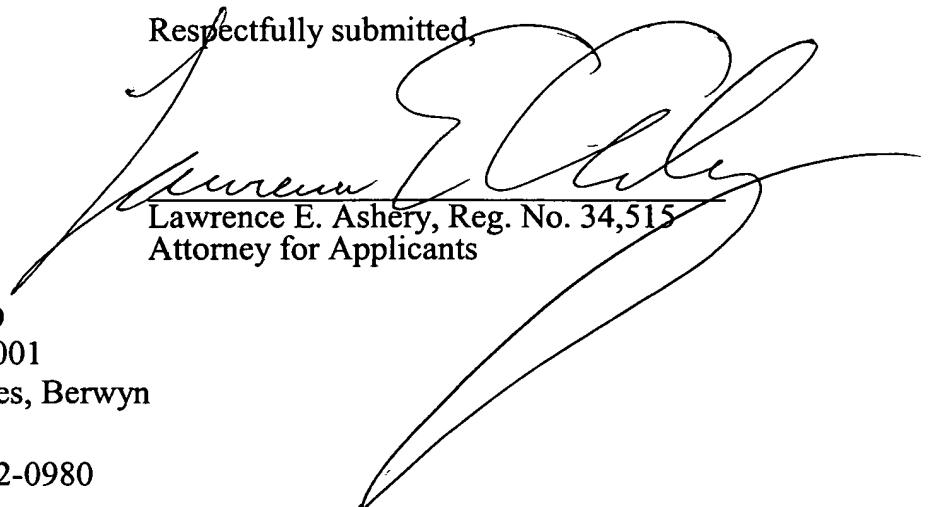


they were cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial Nos. 08/945,629, filed April 23, 1998 and 09/311,671, filed May 13, 1999, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

This information disclosure statement is being filed with the above-referenced application. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

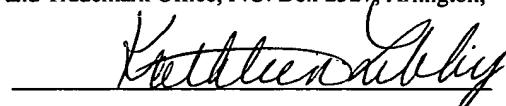

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the (Box Patent Application), U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202


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FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. MAT-5340US3	SERIAL NO To Be Assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT H. Takeda et al.	
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JCG72 U.S. PTO
09/997537

11/29/01

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			European Search Report dated September 23, 1999, application no. 969122316.

Examiner	Date Considered
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